THE TENNESSEE FARMER.

"How much more delightful to an undebauched mind is the task of making improvements on the earth, than all the vain glory which can be acquired from ravaging it, by the most uninterrupted career of conquests."
WASHINGTON.

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TERMS.

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All letters on business in any way connected with the Tennessee Farmer must be addressed to Thomas B. Emmerson Jonesborough Ten. and in order to ensure attention must be POST PAID.

Jonesboro', January, 1838.

According to the decision of the POST MASTER GENERAL, the Tennessee Farmer is subject only to newspaper postage, viz: one cent for each number within the State or within one hundred miles from Jonesboro', out of the State; one and a half cents to any other part of the U. States.

NOTICE TO OUR SUBSCRIBERS.

Requests have recently been made by persons, making us remittances, to return them receipts. We would refer such to our notice on the first page of the January number; and now repeat, that we will regularly acknowledge *all* payments in our monthly list; thereby obviating the necessity of returning individual receipts, and at the same time accomplishing an economy of postage to our subscribers and of trouble to us.

List of payments since the issuance of the last number.

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THE PROPHETIC DEW-DROP.

A delicate child, pale & prematurely wise was complaining on a hot morning, that the poor dew-drops had been too hastily snatched away, and not allowed to glitter on the flowers like other happier dew-drops, that live the whole night through, and sparkle in the moon-light, and through the morning onward to noonday. 'The sun,' said the child, 'has chased them away with his heat, or swallowed them up in his wrath.' Soon after came rain and a rainbow; whereupon his father pointed upward. 'See,' said he, 'there stand the dew-drops gloriously re-set--a glittering jewelry—in the heavens; and the clownish foo' tramples on them no more. By this, my child, thou art taught that what withers on the earth blooms again in heaven. Thus the father spoke, and knew not that he spoke prefiguring words; far soon after the delicate child, with the morning brightness of his early wisdom, was exhaled, like a dew drop into heaven.—*Jean Paul Richter.*

The man of leisure on a death bed.—Mr. Inklin was taken ill. He had said often that he thought religion might be a good thing, and he meant to look into it. An anxious friend brought a clergyman to him. He spoke tenderly but seriously to the sufferer, of eternal truths.

INDIA RUBBER.—A writer in the London Mechanics' Magazine, recommends India rubber for roofing houses. He has made no experiment, but thinks that it might be brought into use for that purpose very advantageously.

MIXED HUSBANDRY.

Mr. Editor—The question is often asked, 'what branch of agriculture is most profitable—grain raising—darying—wool-growing—the rearing of stock—grazing, or any other of the various pursuits of the agriculturist?' This question though well enough, for the purpose of eliciting discussion, is nevertheless I conceive, a most idle one, if put with any view of learning the truth from a direct answer. There are those however who are ready to give that answer and to decide in favor of one single department of agriculture, to the exclusion of any other, or all others! This is not perhaps surprising. The man who has followed one particular path and been successful in it, is apt to imagine that his own, is the only road to wealth.

I have been often struck with this fact in looking over our agricultural publications. *A.* writes to prove that dairying yields the best profits, and that it is subject to fewer contingencies than any other branch of husbandry. *B.* is equally sanguine for grain raising,—and *C.* for sheep. Each not only attempts to prove that his own is the best business, but he contends that it *always must remain so*! Yet how many have lived to see their confident predictions entirely falsified by the event—their favorite pursuit placed for a considerable period at least, entirely at the bottom of the list!

The truth is when we mount our hobbies, (especially on paper) we are liable to take a little too much for granted. 'Paper calculations' has passed into a bye word. Fortune always smiles on paper! Our grain never rusts—or is winter killed—or destroyed by insects, in a paper calculation! Our sheep always shear so much wool—raise just so many lambs to the hundred, and the wool always commands just such a price! Our cows "cannot fall short" of so many pounds of butter and cheese to the head each week—and these comodities "cannot fall short" of so many cents to the pound! So on, through the chapter of hobbies. In this way we figure ourselves into a fortune. But who does not know that the "tide in our affairs" does not always carry us on so smoothly! Who does not know that prices are always fluctuating; that accident is ever at work; that misfortunes will assail us; that

> "A' *our* views may come to nought
> Where ev'ry nerve is strained?"

It may be laid down as an axiom in agriculture, that no one branch can be permanently more profitable than all others. The principles of political economy forbid this. Demand and supply must regulate each other. If transient causes—particular circumstances—render the producing of any one commodity the most profitable, the *rush* attending the discovery soon restores the equilibrium—nay, sinks the favored article, for a period, below the common level.

Mixed husbandry as a system is objected to, because it militates against the theory of a "division of labor." Let every one, say the advocates of this theory, bend his energies towards a single point—cultivate that which he can cultivate best, and exchange his surplus for such other commodities as he may want. This is good doctrine in the mechanic's shop, or the manufactory. The blacksmith had better stick to his trade, and if he wants a waggon, buy it of the waggon maker; but no such degrees of skill are requisite in each of the simple avocations of the husbandman. Good common sense aided by the experience which he rapidly acquires, fits him for the whole round of his duties. But it is said that much time is fritted away in the constant change from one description of labor to another. There is perhaps some force in the objection, but this *change*, according to my taste, adds to our enjoyments, by introducing a pleasing variety into our routine of labors. This, and the pleasure of being surrounded by so many agreeable objects, constitutes, to my mind, one decided argument in favor of mixed husbandry. We farm it not only to make money, but to make ourselves happy. A variety of pursuits, no one followed until it becomes a drudgery, are enjoyed as pastimes. We go forth and we are gladened with a scene, not abounding in the stern sublimities of nature, but glowing in the beauty of *utility*—the meadow stretching away in the vale—the wood-fringed uplands—the intervale tesselated with fields of various colored crops, in every stage of vegetation—yonder hill-side dotted with sheep—and the pastures devoted to horses and kine. Neither do we pass contemptuously over yonder field of clover filled with luxuriating swine, and even the gay colored poultry, the cock with his noisy harem, add to the general animation of the picture. A well regulated farm, where the mixed system is adopted, is a little independent nation (with a government strictly patriarchal) of itself. With the exception of some few 'importations' from the shelves of the merchant, and the calling in of the mechanic's skill to manufacture its *raw material*, it contains within itself the elements of self support, the true luxuries and substantial necessties of life. I speak of course of lands which will admit of the introduction of such a system. Some I admit will not. There are those for instance, well adapted to dairying, which would not yield wheat enough to pay for the tilling. But if good for dairying, they would in all probability be also good for wool-growing, grazing, &c. Now I would not recommend the man who farms such land to attempt the cultivation of wheat, but I would say to him "follow those

branches which your lands are best adapted to; but go as far as possible towards rendering yourself independent of the world, and placing yourself above the reach of those contingencies which any *one* branch is always subject to."—This I conceive to be the proper distinction—the true rule of agricultural action for those whose means require them to go on the safe side.

SOUTH-HILL.

THE PINE APPLE PLANT AND ITS FIBRE.

This plant, which has hitherto been valued solely as ministering to the luxuries of the table has lately had a new interest attached to it from the discovery of a fibre contained in its leaves; possessing such valuable properties, that it will in all probability, soon form a new and important article of commerce.

This fibre is found on comparison, far to surpass in delicacy of texture, those materials which now form the basis of our woven manufactures: of these the principal are silk, wool, cotton and flax. Silk is a continuous fibre, often extending, without interruption, to the length 1000 feet; viewed under the microscope, it is found perfectly cylindrical, beautifully smooth, glossy, and transparent. The best kind of prepared silk varies from 1-4700 the part of an inch in diameter. Wool, on the other hand, is a rough cylindrical fibre, which appears as if planted with irregular scales, the edges of which overlay each other; though invisible to the naked eye, its roughness may be easily detected, by drawing a fibre between the fingers, in a direction from its end to its root. It varies greatly in both length and size, the diameter of very fine wool being from 1-700th to 1-1200 part of an inch. Cotton, being the down of a seed-pod has peculiar characters, a flattened and twisted cylinder, arising, probably, from the compression which the fibre undergoes before the opening of the pod: its diameter is about the 1-1000th part of an inch. Flax, in many respects, differs from the foregoing materials; a filament of silk, wool, or cotton, admits of no division, while on the other hand, each filament of flax is a fasciculis or bundle of fine fibres, connected by a thin membrane, and the natural gluten of the plant.—These fibres may be termed ultimate, as they admit of no further sub division; they are cylindrical tubes disposed parallel to each other and having the appearance of innumerable joints; their diameters varies in different flaxes from 1-700th to 1-2500th part of an inch.

The fibres of the pine-apple plant are also disposed in fasciculi each apparent fibre being an assemblage of fibres adhering together of such exceeding delicacy as only to measure from 1-5000th to 1-7000 part of an inch in diameter; viewed under the microscope, they bear considerable resemblance to silk, from their glossy even, and smooth texture. They appear altogether destitute of joints, or other irregularities, and are remarkably transparent, particularly when viewed in water; they are very elastic, of great strength, and readily receive the most delicate dyes. Its cultivation requires but little care or expense, and the plant is of such hardy growth, as to be almost independent of those casualities of weather, which often prove so detrimental to more delecate crops—it is covered by a thick, glazed cuticle, which admits of so little evaporation, that many of the tribe will thrive upon a barren rock, where no other could live. From the large portion of oxalic rain which the leaves also contain, no animal will touch them, and they are, therefore, exempt from the tresspasses of cattle, &c.; indeed, no greater proof of the hardiness of the plant can be given, that the fact, that in many places where lands have been under tillage, and have afterwards been abandoned, and allowed to return to a state of nature, the pine-apple plants only have remained increasing from year to year, and have spread into large beds.

In adverting to the present state of the West India colonies, we cannot but think that the discovery of this fibre will prove to them a most valuable acquisition. The small amount of labor and capital requisite for the cultivation of the plant, its hardy growth, its abundant produce, the facility with which the fibre may be prepared from its leaves, the trifling cost at which it can be brought to market, and the value attached to it, as an article of commerce, by those manufactures to whom it has been submitted, seem fully to justify the opinion that it is calculated to open a new source of wealth to the colonies, and become a staple and valuable article of British manufacture.—*Mag. Pop. Sci.*

CULTIVATION OF PINE APPLES.

The cultivation of Pine Apples has been commenced by Mr. Cushing of Belmont Place, near Boston, with all the energy and perseverance for which he is distinguished. In "A retrospective views of the progress of horticulture in the United States, during the past year," by the Editor of the Magazine of Horticulture, we find the following notice of this laudable undertaking. "When we last visited this fine situation, we found one of the elegant stoves, converted into a fruiting pine house, the pit of which was filled with fine grown specimens, some of which were beginning to ripen their fruit, or 'swell off,' as the phrase is. In the pit of the other stove was also a great number of succession plants, intending for fruiting next

summer. Col. Perkins has also erected a pinery which will soon be filled with plants. We hail these as the first steps towards the general cultivation of the 'king of fruits' by the worthy gentlemen and patrons of gardening in this country."—*Silk Culturist.*

ITALIAN VS. SIBERIAN WHEAT.

Judge Buel—Dear Sir: I have seen the Cultivator for December, and notice a letter bearing Doct. Goodsell's signature, announcing his result in raising the Siberian wheat, and speaking in very disparaging terms of the Italian spring wheat. I would not in an ordinary case trespass upon your time or columns, but feel that this attempt to put down the reputation of the Italian wheat, is unjust and unsustained by the experience of one in a thousand.

The public have a deep interest in this matter, and would doubtless have read his letter with satisfaction, were it not apparent that it was written with the view to establish a character for his *favorite*, at the expense of a *favorite* with them:—which of these varieties of spring wheat shall best deserve the title of best, is yet to be proven, and that, not by an isolated case, but by general experience. It is a matter of moment, that the farming interest should not be put upon a wrong track; but in this instance, the Doct. will have an "uphill business," to convince them of the worthlessness of an article hitherto highly prosperous, an article that has been grown by more than 4000 of them the past season, in this country, and now actually furnishes excellent bread to more than half our whole population, and that too, in numerous cases, from impoverished lands, that would not yield a crop of oats. *This property alone* should give the Italian spring wheat a name above every other, as no other in this country possesses one so valuable, except such as are in common; none other will grow well, and *produce a good crop upon a poor and worn out soil.* It has been grown for five seasons in this county and has not failed in any, it rarely ever rusts although winter wheat is ruined all around it; it has justly obtained an enviable popularity, as the Doct. knows, as a sure crop, a good crop, and a larger;—it is the ony article about which there was scarce a difference of opinion, until the letter in question—here it will effect little—abroad it may prevent a million from enjoying a certain good, which unlike the other, has not yet to *establish* a reputation. A "single swallow does not make summer"—nor the yield of a single field fix unqualifiedly a character. Many folks make wild *guesses*; the Doct. says his Quaker friend "*thinks*" that he shall thresh nearly or quite 40 bushels Siberian from one bushel sown. Now this is great, if he has *guessed* truly; yet I can tell him of a man who says he sowed but half a bushel of Italian wheat on an acre of land, and that it yielded him 30 bushels after threshed, and his account is not *guess* work.

Italian wheat is somewhat shrunk this season but far less so than winter wheat, and it is only that which was blown down and lodged, so far as I have heard, that was much shrunk. The Siberian, it seems, shrinks also, by the account given in the letter, and like other wheats, is liable to "the thousand ills that wheat is heir to"—saving and excepting the bug, which looked so like a "bed-bug," a harbinger of "weal or woe"—perhaps to nobody. We shall look for the honest result next year.

J. H. *of Onedia.*
Cultivator.

BRITISH AGRICULTURE.

Among the causes which have more than doubled the agricultural produce of Great Britain, within the period just alluded to, may be mentioned the enclosing of six or seven millions of acres of commons and common fields, by which their annual product has been increased, in many cases more than tenfold—the cultivation of heaths and other waste lands—the redeeming of extensive and inexhaustible rich fens, from the possession of aquatic birds and animals—the great improvement in agricultural implements—the furrow draining of clay, and other cold and stiff soils—the better rotation of crops—the extensive introduction of turnips and clover—the immense increase of common manure, and the introduction of one at least, whose extraordinary nutritive qualities have but recently been discovered. Next to wheat, the turnip crop, which forty years ago was hardly worth mentioning, is now more valuable than any other, both to landlords and tenants. It is used chiefly in feeding and fattening cattle and sheep: and wile immense numbers of both are kept in the most healthy and thriving condition upon this vegetable, one species of which, the ruta baga, has lately been introduced, and is extensively productive, the lands are greatly enriched, and soon prepared for any other crop; which the farmer may find most profitable in his system of rotation. Clover, too, is doing much to enrich the soil of England and Scotland, and to reward the labors of those who moisten it with the sweat of their brows. It is surprising to see, to what an extent the light sandy lands of England have already been redeemed from comparative sterility under this cultivation, and are now sowed with the finest wheat. The process is still going on, and bids fair to proceed as long as there remain any such lands to be reclaimed and enriched. Indeed, who can tell how much the

cultivation of the turnips may ultimately add to the wealth, and help to sustain the population of Britain. According to an estimate which I have lately seen it is now worth *many millions* sterling, per annum, to the single county of Norfolk. *Carrots*, also, are found to be a very profitable crop, in some parts of England and the farmers are turning their attention to the cultivation of this very nutritious esculent, with increasing interest and advantage. Among the several kinds of manure which have long been in high repute, lime and marl are inexhaustible; particularly the former, which the low price of coal brings at a cheap rate. On some soils, and near the kilns, it is used in great quantities. I have seen fields covered with it, just as ours are with barn manure; and when it is spread, the ground appears, at a little distance, as if it were covered with snow.

But the richest and most profitable kind of dressing which has yet been tried, and which is a new source of agricultural wealth to Great Britain, is *bone manure*. It began first to be used, on a large scale, in Yorkshire and Lincolnshire, where its influence has been all but miraculous! Extensive tracts of country, which a few years ago were mere wastes, occupied by rabbit-warrens, have been converted into some of the finest and best managed farms in England. This signal improvement, though it did not begin, has been carried to its present perfection, by the use of the manure just mentioned. Since bone dust has come into general use the turnip crop has been increased in many instances tenfold, and in few less than *four* or *five* fold, and the effect has been equally surprising upon the succeeding crops of grain, on the same land. This is the testimony of practical men, well acquainted with all the circumstances, and they have no doubt that the soil will go on progressively improving, and requiring a less quantity of bones, annually, from its increased fertility and power. It answers best on light soils. A single farmer in Lincolnshire, is said to have generally about 600 acres dressed, almost entirely with bone manure, furnishing a vast supply of food for cattle, and of common manure for other lands, and is fitting those on which it is sown, for bearing the most luxuriant crops of wheat and barley.

In Scotland, the use of bone manure is still more recent, but scarcely less productive. In the Lothians, in Berwickshire, and in fact every where, it is working wonders. Being so light and easily transported, compared with any other kind of manure, many a rugged and hilly tract is fertilized by it, which must otherwise have remained in a state of nature. To pulverize the bones, mills are constructed in the vicinity of all large towns, and besides what their own markets furnish, large quantities of bone dust are imported by the Scotch farmers.

Dr. Humphrey's Letters from England.

THE TREE OF LIFE.

The *Algarrova Tree* the growth of the Pampas and other provinces in South America, seems to have been expressly provided by Providence, for the sustenance of the rude inhabitants of these districts, and, if it were by an accident to be exterminated, it is scarcely too much to say that the population would follow it! It is the universal sustenance of the poor, the idle, and the destitute; there is a drink made from its bean-like pod, which is really excellent—its seeds are ground into palatable and nutritious flour—its leaves are used as the general food for cattle—and its branches, which are studded with sharp thorns, are stuck into the earth and wattled together into a kind of palisade, which even a starving bull will not attempt to break through, though he sees the tempting pasture on the other side. The wood, too, is not only excellent for all agricultural and architectural purposes, but is, from its hard and solid texture, almost as durable as coals for fuel. Finally, even dogs are fond of the pod, and pigs fatten on it better than on any other food. The former will often leave their homes and live in the algarrova woods as long as the pod is in season; and the poor inhabitants will none of them work—nor need they—while that portion of the algarrova tree lasts.

PLASTER OF PARIS.

There is no practice which shows the importance of observation, reasoning and science in farming operations, than in the use of plaster. In many districts it has been applied with diminished effect, until it has become wholly inert, and the soil completely exhausted. Hence the opinion has pervaded the agricultural community, and adopted by many, that this is the general effect of plaster. There are other portions of our county where it has been successfully used for forty years, regularly adding to the fertility of the soil; and here and there we hear of a farmer in almost every town, whose judgment has been pronounced against it, continuing to use it with the same good results.—Those who have met with success have used it, not as a substitute for other manure, but to render them more effective. They are careful to return to the soil more than they take from it, particularly by turning under their luxuriant growth of clover.—*Norwark Gaz.*

Implements of husbandry.—That farmer best consults his interest who is well provided with a sufficient number of good implements and tools, and that interest is further promoted by always keeping them in good order.—*Gardner.*

MANGEL WURTZEL.

This excellent root should be sown early in May. The ground be well manured and prepared as for turnips, and of course well ploughed and harrowed—then lay off drills 2 feet apart, and one inch deep, drop the seed about 8 inches a sunder: keep the ground well st rred and clean, and, in all after cultivation throw the furrow or soil from the root.

In July you may begin to strip off the first crop of leaves, which must be carefully pulled, and only such taken off as incline or bend towards the earth. As soon as the first crop of leaves have been gathered, stir the earth about the root: from 30 to 40 tons of leaves and roots, it is stated on respectable authority, have been produced on one acre of land.

Horses. cows, hogs and indeed all kinds of stock feed kindly on the root and leaves of this vegetable; and what is still better, thrive well: for milch cows there is nothing which can be given them more productive of milk.

RUTA BAGA.

We come now to speak of what in English husbandry stands pre-eminently forward in the catalogue of root-crops—what in fact forms the basis of the system in all the sheep and cattle districts. Through its means England, proper, has within the last century doubled, if not tripled her stock of domestic animals, and thus added to the wealth of the empire, to that of individuals, extended the comforts and means of living to both man and beast, and given to real property an enhanced value, very far exceeding in amount, all the most sanguine anticipations, which had been previously formed.

The most suitable soil for the Ruta Baga is rich sandy loam, which should be manured freely with ashes, ploughed deep, and well pulverized. Lay off your rows 27 inches apart; put the seed in with a drilling machine, or if you have not got one, you may very profitably substitute a common black bottle, putting a quill through the cork and mixing dry sand with the seed; sow thin, and when the plants are about 3 or 4 inches high, thin them out to the distance of a bout 10 inches a sunder. As soon as they are of a size to cleanse, pass the plough through them, throwing the furrow from the ball. Their subsequent cultivation will depend upon the season, condition of the soil and necessities of the plant, which must, until the leaves shadow the space between the rows, be kept well stirred and clean: for all working of them after the first ploughing, the cultivator is the most suitable instrument, both on account of the quantity of labor thereby saved, and the peculiar fitness of this implement for all kinds of drill husbandry.

If you have an abundance of manure, you may plough it in broad-cast; but if your supply is scarce, you may apply it in the furrows or drills; upon the top of which you must sow your seed, which should be previously soaked in a solution of chamber-lie, sulphur and saltpetre for 12 hours; then strain the liquid off the seed, immerse them in fish or Seneca oil for an hour or two; strain off the oil, roll them in plaister and sow them.

The *time of sowing* is not so easy of being fixed. The general rule in Europe, is, to put them in a month earlier than the common turnip; but we question much whether this rule would invariably apply in our country; certainly not in any great extent of district, and we are rather disposed to think that the main cause of the failure of large crops of this root, in many instances, arises from the fact of the sowing being delayed too late,

According to our judgement the sowing in the middle and southern states should not be delayed beyond *June*. In the state of New York and further east, they are frequently sown in the latter part of the month of *May*. They may, however, be sown in the month of *July* and succeed well, if the frost of the fall be long delayed.

One other plan of cultivating them is to turn up two furrows together and sow on the top.

If the ground be well adapted to their growth, be well manured, finely pulverized, and the root itself carefully cultivated, a very large product will without fail be the reward of the husbandman's toil. From five to fourteen hundred bushels have often been raised on an acre.

In England where their value is known and properly appreciated. they are fed to horses as well as hogs and cattle. At first they are given to horses mixed with corn, but afterwards with hay only, the corn being entirely discontinued, and on this food alone, the fact is well established, that horses have been kept at hard work for two months at a time, continuing during the whole period in good health; condition and spirits, competent to the performance of fu work, eating the roots with avidity, and even preferring them to corn.

These roots are said to possess the singular property of binding to a healthful extent, instead of relaxing the bowels, and to this characteristic trait, it is ascribed that working horses, oxen and mules, are enabled to labor so advantageously when fed upon them.

Some idea may be formed of the value o these roots, as food for beasts of burden. whe it is stated on good authority. that a M Dai kin of England, fed fifteen working hor two months on the product of one acr They possess the quality of rendering the ha of the animal fed on them fine and silky, ar

said to cure the disease in horses termed the *grease*.

Besides yielding an immense mass of roots for winter food, they afford a very heavy body of tops, which are peculiary grateful to stock of all kinds. The best method of securing these tops is to cut them off, beginning to do so as soon as the early frost begins to set in; feeding them daily to hogs, cows, and indeed to stock of all kinds. The milch-cows eat them with avidity, and when a little salted they are devoured voraciously by the horses.

When the tops are fed off, the roots should be taken up and permitted to lie in the sun until the dirt on handling will fall off, when they may be stowed away in a dry cellar where they will keep, until the month of May, perfectly sound and good.

We noticed last fall a very excellent and judicious farmer throwing a furrow against either side of his Ruta Bigas, with a view of preserving them through the winter; and he assured us they would, thus protected, withstand our severest winters.

We are fully aware that it is hard to divert men from the ways of their fathers—we know that our agricultural brethren are not exempt from that failing which induces us to cling to the customs of our infancy—we know that, from these causes they are slow to enter upon any new branch of husbandry; but may we not hope that self-interest will induce one and all of them to devote at least *one acre* to this culture. Let them be magnanimous enough to make this small essay towards reform in their system of culture. So small an innovation upon their old cherished ancestral customs, is certainly not an unreasonable request to make, especially as they themselves are to be the recipients of the benefit to be derived.—*Farmer and Gardner.*

Root Crops.

There is perhaps no way of making more from a certain quantity of land, than by the culture of root crops. We here give a few instances to show what may be done. The great productiveness of carrots on a deep rich soil is well known. L. Beach of Marcellus, raised in 1835, at the rate of twenty-three hundred bushels of carrots to the acre. Edward Miller of Albany county, raised the same year, sixteen hundred and eighty bushels. Many other instances might be given where a thousand or more have been raised to the acre.

The ruta baga is not less productive when properly managed. Edward Miller of Albany, raised at the rate of 1220 bushels to the acre. R. Gordon, in a communication in the Farmer and Mechanic, states that he raised 1510 bushels on an acre. Wm. Wetmore of Stow, Ohio, raised at the rate of 1952 bushels an acre in one instance, and 1433 in another. Now, whatever has been once done, may be done again.—The great secret in cultivating root crops, consists in heavy manuring; of course, good culture in other respects, is needed.

We know from our own observations and experience, that on good land with a tolerable share of manure, from six hundred to eight hundred bushels of ruta baga may be reasonably expected, in ordinary seasons. Experiments have shown that for fattening oxen, two bushels are fully equal to one bushel of corn; consequently, for this purpose, an acre of this root is equal to what is ordinarily raised by eight or ten acres of corn.

But the fine condition in which root crops leave the land; and the quantity of manure they furnish by feeding to cattle; and the consequent means of continual improvement of the soil; are among the most important advantages derived from their culture.

On heavy soils, ruta baga does not succeed well, unless the ground be sufficiently dry, (by underdraining if needed,) and it be in good culture, and well manured. But with these requisites, we believe that nearly or quite as large crops may be had from such soils as any other.

Such soils are as well adapted, if prepared as just stated, to the culture of mangel wurtzel, as any soil whatever; and crops of from *one* to *two thousand bushels to the acre*, have been repeatedly raised. Though not well adapted to fattening animals for beef, they far exceed other roots as food for milch cows;—hence they should be unsparingly cultivated on all dairy farms. They are also excellent winter and spring food for sheep.

J. J. T.

Genesee Farmer.

Feeding Animals with Hay.

A great loss is frequently sustained by feeding animals not sufficiently often, and giving them too large quantities at a time. In this way, by having a great pile of fodder for a long time before them, which is rendered more and more foul and offensive by their constantly breathing upon it while rooting it over and over, it is imperfectly eaten, and a large part perhaps wasted. To prevent this, hay should be given frequently and in small quantities, especially when placed in racks and mangers, as it should always be when fed out. For where hay is scattered over the ground, a greater or less quantity is always wasted and if the ground be at all muddy, half of it, at least is almost sure to be trodden under foot and spoiled. J. J-T.

Genesee Farmer.

Sow garden peas thick, to make them flourish.

TENNESSEE FARMER,
Jonesborough, March 1, 1838.

THE PRACTICAL APPLICATIONS OF SCIENCE.

There is no popular delusion of the day more absurd in its conception, or disastrous in its tendencies, than the impression which is somewhat prevalent, that the researches of science are of a speculative—mysterious character and at best of doubtful utility. This error, it is scarcely necessary to say, is radical and total. As the term itself indicates, Science is necessarily conversant with facts and with facts only. She is the very antipodes of all theoretical speculation. Her doctrines are either intrinsically self-evident, or the inevitable deductions of rigid demonstration; and her developements are thrown conspicuously before the world, as originally the result, so open anew to the reiterated tests of unerring experiment.

Nor are the objects of her researches shrouded in any repulsive mystery impenetrable to the ordinary mental vision. So far from it these objects are around and before us, on every side and at every turn. The humblest artisan is indebted to the original discoveries of Science for his simplest implements—the manufacturer for many of the commonest processes of his art—the every-day traveller by land or by water for the ease and safety and speed of his conveyance—in short throughout all the ramifications of civilized society, there are none who are not thus indebted for the ordinary and indispensable comforts and conveniences of life.

But there is perhaps no department of human avocation more especially dependant upon the aids of science for success than the agricultural life. This connexion is so obvious and natural as scarcely to need elucidation.

The hand of science takes up a grain of corn, and, with a precision as admirable as it is unerring, ascertains the exact amount of its nutriment for the sustenance of animal life. So also of all the vegetable productions of nature; thus enabling the farmer to select the crops which, with a due regard to their relative productiveness, promise the greatest profit in the sustenance of his stock.

A chemical acquaintance with the greatly diversified characteristics of the different soils, and their adaptation to the various vegetable productions, is, to a certain extent, absolutely indispensable to any positive certainty of agricultural profits—as, on the other hand, a neglect of this important knowledge has, perhaps, been more fatally disastrous to the general success of agriculture than any other cause whatever.

The judicious application of manures is also entirely dependant on scientific principles. If the medical quack has slain his thousands of human patients, the agricultural empiric has been equally destructive of his tens of thousands of acres—not indeed so much through the improper application of manures, as from a total neglect in administering these necessary restoratives. The vitality of the soil as of the human system requires constant pursing and nutriment; and the different constitutions and diseases of the one and of the other, demand an equal skill in their different modes of treatment and renovation. A general and philosophical knowledge of the proper uses and application of the single article of Lime as a manure for our lands, would no doubt, in a very short period, carry forward the agriculture of East Tennessee, a century in advance of its existing condition. For the want of this knowledge our immense quarries of limestone lie imbedded in our soil comparatively inert and unavailable ——except to supply the limited uses of the mason; often impeding the course of the plough instead of aiding its operations, and constituting the utter sterrility of large spots in the plantation of the farmer, when these should be used as the very means obviously provided by the God of nature to infuse into the whole an abundant fertility and lasting vigor.

A Botanical familiarity with the organization, vegetable action, food, and diseases of plants, would enable the farmer to encounter and vanquish the many maladies which blight the fruits of his orchards, and often wither, as with the touch of the Angel of Death, the fair promises of all his crops.

Not to particularize farther,(as a full discussion of this subject would be as interminable as the laws of nature herself) we may safely aver, that there is no detail of agricultural life, from its most important operations down to the simple act of planting a post in the ground which might not borrow decisive aid from the judicious application of the principles of science.

The farmer who is destitute of this important help, and yet successful in his labors, is practicing mechanically the injunctions originally derived from the lights of philosophy, or a shrewd observation of nature and a native genius have opened to him some glances of her pure and piercing rays; while, on the other hand, the unsuccessful have endeavoured to bring these same mechanical rules to bear under circumstances which require a great modification or a total change in their application. If we are not greatly mistaken, this will easily explain the partial success of some and the total failure of the many who attempt to farm without the aids of knowledge or science.

It follows as a necessary result of the above principles that the perfection of farming can alone be looked for when all our farmers shall have become perfectly enlightened and sage philosophers! We *do* believe this, although there is a strong spice of merriment in the contrast it conjures up. And if we are to adopt the sentiment of the poet that

"'Tis distance lends enchantment to the view."

then truly is *this* prospect before us richly robed" in all the mellow tints and "azure hue" of *perfect* enchantment.

THE YANKEE FARMER,

Published simultaneously in Boston and Portland by C. B. Bosson and S. W. Cole, and those standard works the Cultivator and (monthly) Genessee Farmer have all been considerably enlarged and improved with the commencement of the current year. We sincerely rejoice at any such evidence of a liberal support afforded the agricultural papers of the day—evincing, as it does, an increasing interest in that kind of reading. There can be no fairer criterion of the prosperous condition of agriculture in any section of country, than a handsome patronage awarded the periodicals devoted to that great interest.

We solicit attention to an article headed "Root Crops &c." from the Baltimore Farmer and Gardener of 1836, which will be found on a preceeding page. We have heretofore given the details of the management of the Mangel Wurtzel, and the reader will here find very plain directions for the culture of the Ruta Baga. We would most earnestly urge it upon every farmer who reads this article to give one or the other of these roots (or the Sugar Beet) a fair trial this season even if it be on a small scale. There cannot be a doubt that their introduction as a part of our regular cropping is a desideratum of urgent necessity and immense importance. The farmer whose misfortune it is to occupy the poorest farm in the State may yet, every season, enrich one, two or three acres of ground by heavy manuring, and from this small parcel of land gather an amount of this healthful sustenance for his stock which will astonish himself.

The claims of sheer humanity urgently demand of us to devise some better methods of sustaining our farm stock, especially our neat cattle, through the long winter, than the savage system of starvation, at present, practised on too many of our farms. We know of nothing that promises half the aid in this reform which may safely be expected from the Root culture.

Of those who may still be incredulous in this matter we would just ask: Are you contented with our existing system of cultivation? Do you think it the very best that can be devised? Are we indeed exhibiting to the world the very perfection of farming? Are corn, oats, and rye (almost the only solid food fed to our stock) the cheapest and best and only sustanence we can produce for this purpose, on our worn and impoverished lands? If these questions are to be answered in the negative, then, in the name of common sense, *why not try some other system*? Whilst every other art has realized the benefits of modern improvements, shall our agriculture, alone, remain everlastingly stationary? We

know or may know the magnificent success which has attended the root culture in England and other European countries, and also in this country, particularly in the Northern States where the best farming is to be found. Then if our agriculture does need improvement why not give this system a fair experiment here? A total failure cannot be *very* disastrous; but not anticipating a failure we once more earnestly recommend the experiment, at least, to all who may be able to make it the ensuing season.

TO WARRANT A CROP OF CORN.

So far as our observation has extended, a good coat of manure seems to act upon the corn crop, as a policy of insurance, against the vicissitudes of the elements. It is true that if a long drought immediately succeeds the application of strong manure to the field, the tender shoot is apt to be scorched at its first germination. But this misfortune, when it happens, may be easily remedied by a re-planting—time being always afforded for this operation, in our climate, when the first planting has been performed in season. When, however, the manure has been once well saturated with rain, the moisture it retains and the remarkable energy with which it stimulates the plant, seem to push forward the crop in spite of every opposing principle, and secure it, in a great measure, from any succeeding drought which may occur. The observant farmer has no doubt noticed this fact in repeated instances. After the long drought, when the unmanured cornhill has scarcely matured its single, withered ear, the adjacent stalk, which had been manured, will be found to have perfected its two or more ears fully and luxuriantly.

If heavy manuring thus insures against the drought, it may also be said to give bond and security, to some extent at least, against the devastations of the summer thunderstorm, by imparting such a vigour to the roots of the plant that it becomes firmly set in the ground, and capable of withstanding a considerable shock.

When we remember, in connexion with the above, the sure defence which manure furnishes against the depredations of insects—the vast increase of production it never fails to effect, and the delightful condition in which it leaves the soil for succeeding crops, we cannot enough wonder at the apathy so frequently manifested in the preservation and use of this invaluable article. There is no labour on the farm, we may venture to affirm, so well and amply and evidently compensated as that bestowed on the careful accumulation and judicious distribution of manures. And on the other hand, we cannot conceive of any thing more utterly dispiriting and really hopeless than the toilsome tillage, without manure, of a large corn-field of poor land which it is positively certain cannot repay the simple expenses of cultivation.

SILK VS. COTTON.

The Editor of the Silk Culturist, in a late number, discussing the relative advantages, of the Silk and Cotton culture, avers that nature has given the decided precedence to the former—in as much as the labors of the worm in the one carry forward the work through all the operations of picking, ginning, carding, drawing and spinning which in the other are so exceedingly laborious, complicated and protracted.

"The ingenious and industrious worm performs all these operations in the greatest perfection and with the greatest facility; and all the remuneration it asks for its labour is a plentiful supply of mulberry leaves during the brief period of its life Did the cotton plant instinctively spin its thread and wind it upon its pod, the manufactures of cotton and silk would start at the same point. But nature has otherwise ordered and given Silk an advantage ovr cotton which the labour of man aided by the utmost stretch of mechanical ingenuity can never counterbalance."

The idea though not new, is certainly an ingenious one, and not unworthy the enlightenedr eflection of the economist.

STATE LEGISLATURE.

The last sitting of our State Legislature, recently terminated, has been one of immense moment to the good people of this common-

wealth. Not to dwell upon the highly important measures of Internal Improvement, Banking, Education &c., matured and adopted, there is one other act which this day becomes the law of the land so full of hope to the cause of morality, religion and the general best interests of the people, that we cannot but hail it as the advent of a new and propitious era in our civil history. The act for the suppression of Tippling houses, has, with a bold and benevolent decision, erased from the escutcheon of our State, a long-existing blot of deep and disgraceful dye to any civilized community.—The retail of spirituous liquors is now outlawed throughout the length and breadth of the State! It is made a misdemeanor which *cannot* be legalized. If the officers entrusted with the enforcement of this act perform their sworn duties, no human power can compute the amount of its blessings—in the diminution of crime—the amelioration of the popular morals—the increase of industry—the suppression of pauperism—the restoration to respectability and to society of thousands now constituting a diseased and infectious mass upon the body politic—the dispersion of the horrors of the drunkard's fireside, the relief of his broken-hearted wife, and worse than fatherless children,—and the new and cheering light, shed upon his prospects for time and for eternity!

Would that this act were like the laws of the Medes and Persians—immutable and uncompromising as the everlasting hills! We earnestly hope to see it. and the patriot majority which carried it through, sustained by the united voice of the public press, and of enlightened public opinion throughout the State. And may the glorious example—almost in advance of the spirit of the age—find an imitator in every sister State of this broad confederacy!

P. S. Since writing the above, we observe that the Davidson County Court has decided that the effect of the late Act for the suppression of Tippling houses, is to revive the acts of 1811 and 1823, which grant license to tavern-keepers to retail spirits on their payment of the county and State taxes, amounting to $10.—The legal opinion here, however, is directly adverse to this decision. At any rate we trust if, through inadvertance, this noble effort of our Legislature has proved abortive, that the same good spirit which originally prompted, will yet exist to consummate and make it effectual in due time.

From the Tennessee Sentinel.

THE TENNESSEE FARMER.

This little periodical edited near Jonesboro', and exclusively devoted to agriculture, we are gratified to perceive, has taken on a decidedly improved character, in the style and selection of its articles. The number for February has just made its appearance, and is filled with excellent selections, and extracts from various interesting publications devoted to the same cause.

The original articles are written with taste and judgement—but the article under the head of the "Benefactors of Agriculture," is particularly worthy the attentivve perusal of the public. It has that lucid, graceful, and classical style, which distinguishes the scholar and the man of reading. It is full of thought, and presents to us an instructive array of facts, which will add much to the information of the farmer, and ought to stimulate him to renewed efforts. It is a great mistake to suppose agriculture owes nothing to books, and to intellectual powers. Some of the first men of the world have done much to promote, and carry forward the interests of so good a cause, and we believe that the prosperity of our happy land must depend, in part, upon the flourishing condition of our great agricultural interests. The Editor who at present controls the Farmer, is favorably known to us, as a gentleman whose talents will continue to give value and embellishment to the work. We hope that it is one of those things that will help East Tennessee to look up, by inviting and encouraging the developement of her great agricultural resources.

INOCULATING CHEESE.

What will the ingenuity of man not contrive? A method has been discovered of inoculating cheese; or, in other words, transplanting the character of an old cheese into a new one.—This rather curious scheme is brought forward as a communication to the Agricultural Journal for March, by John Robinson, Esq., Secretary of the Royal Society of Edinburgh. "If it be required, (says he,) to communicate to a new cheese the flavor and appearance of an old one, it may be done by the insertion in the new cheese portions of the old, containing the mould. The little scoop which is used in taking samples of cheese, is a ready made means of performing the operation, by interchanging ten or a dozen of the rolls which it extracts, and placing them so as to disseminate the germ of the blue mould all over the cheese.

To make Farming Profitable.

Some farmers think, that to make money by the business, it is only necessary to cultivate great farms—of several hundred acres; others think that to raise and harvest crops at the least possible expense, is the great secret: some again think that covering their land with wheat crops year after year, is to pocket the most cash; and others that to raise cattle, or to devote the farm entirely to a dairy, or to raising sheep goes ahead of every thing else

They are not all correct. Which of them is? We will first say who is not. Cultivating a large farm, is not profitable, unless it is properly and thoroughly done, for a man who makes nothing on one acre, will not be likely to make more on a thousand, with the same kind of culture. Those who own very large farms, too frequently attempt to cultivate them with the least possible expense, or else neglect them entirely; and this superficial farming, is after all, by far the most expensive, as we shall proceed to show. It is generally quite as expensive to cultivate an acre of land which is in a bad state, as one in fine condition, and often more so; if for instance, the crop is so small that it is only worth the expense of raising it, there is no profit whatever but if the land be good, the expense the same, and the crop twice as great, one half, of course, will be clear gain. Hence the vast importance of adopting such a course of farming as to tend constantly to the improvement of the land. This course is not close cropping with wheat, nor suffering it to remain constantly in meadow or pasture,

But to effect improvement in land, it is necessary to pursue a course of rotation in crops, —to manure as much as is practicable, either by stable manure or by turning under green crops, with a proper use of lime,—and to render all wet ground sufficiently dry by under draining. For this, capital is necessary; and hence a farmer must not only have land to cultivate, but he must have means besides in sufficient quantity to carry on his operations to the best advantage. If he cannot get these means otherwise, he ought immediately to sell a part of his land, and devote the avails to improving the remainder.

It is true that many farmers have made money by close cropping with wheat; but there is no doubt that if instead of this, they had pursued a proper course of rotation, they might have done as well at the time, and instead of exhausting their land, been constantly rendering it more productive. A proof of this is afforded by an experiment made several years ago. One portion of land was cropped every second year on another portion a longer time intervened between the crops of wheat, by a judicious system of rotation; and although wheat was the main crop,—yet the increased fertility which this course caused, and the consequent increase both in the wheat and intervening crops, rendered the latter course ultimately the most profitable. with the additional advantage of leaving the ground in the best condition.

Corn, wheat, oats, barley, &c, being all similar in their effects in exhausting land, it becomes necessary to introduce the culture of some other crops more generally than exists at present, in order to form a proper rotation. Peas and beans are both excellent for preceding any of the grain crops just mentioned; and the red-eyed China bean, cultivated in drills or hills would doubtless be as profitable as wheat or corn.

The culture of root crops is a most powerful means of enriching land. A crop of corn the last summer, was twice as productive after ruta bagas, as after corn, fertility and manuring being the same in both cases. J. J. T.

Genesee Farmer.

From the British Farmers' Magazine.

On raising mixed crops, with a view of securing or increasing profits.

Although in general, the different species and varieties of field crops are sown or planted by themselves, they are, in a few cases, intermixed that is, two sorts are sown, reaped, and thrashed together. This practise depends on a few circumstances which are favorable thereto such as suitability to the same soil; sowable at the same season, and in the same manner; ripening together; separable, if necessary, in the barn; or, if not, that may be used or sold together.

The idea that mixed seeds always succeed better than any one by itself, is founded upon the supposition, that every different species of plant imbibes food peculiar to itself, and as there must be less rivalry among a heterogeneous than in a homogeneous assemblage, each sort will secure for itself a more abundant share of its natural food. That this notion is not merely suppositional, but a reality, is often proved by the fact, that a mixture of red and white wheat always yields a heavier crop both of grain and straw than if kept and sown separate in the same field; and, moreover, if sown separately, the plants, at the line of junction, where the sorts are in some degree accidentally mixed, are the strongest in the field.

It was formerly a custom to sow spring wheat and barley together, in order to be ground into meal for baking into bread; but this practice has been long abandoned.

Peas are always considered a precarious crop, especially in dry summers; and, lest any loss should be sustained by peas alone, oats are fre-

quently mixed and sown with them. These grow well together; the oats supporting the peas, and the peas shading the ground, and thereby nursing the oats. Three quarters of peas and four quarters of oats are frequently obtained by growing them together; and a vast quantity of excellent fodder either for the cribs or racks in winter, or for cutting into chaff. The grain is easily separated in the barn, by simple *throwing* from one end of the thrashing-floor to the other. The large black Poland, or Tartarian sorts of oats, and either the maple or common hog-peas, are best for growing together.

Instead of oats, common horse beans are sometimes sown to great advantage; the beans serving to prop the peas, and, consequently, rendering them more prolific. This mixture answers best on strong loamy soils, it never being attempted on thin or light land. This mixed grain is chiefly used for pig feeding; and, in the market, is called *polls* or poulse.

In some rich, loamy districts of the kingdom, where the early nimble pea can be cultivated, a cast of turnip seed is thrown over before the last hoeing, and when the peas are off, the stubble is first harrowed, and the turnip plants, if enough have risen, are regularly thinned by the hoe. The same thing is done among beans.—The turnip seed is sown in June or July, before the last hoeing; or, if there be no weeds, the surface is chopped over, to bury the seed. By this extra labor, a fair sprinkling of turnips for spring feed will remain after the beans are off. This, however, is only done when wheat does not succeed beans, and where the soil is moist and very mellow.

Where buck-wheat is cultivated, and which is not intended to be followed by wheat, turnips may be sown at the same time, and which sometimes answers very well in raising—not large bulbs indeed, but a fair bite of herbage to help out the main crops of turnips in the spring.

Sowing grass-seed with barley or oats, or harrowing and rolling it in upon wheat in the spring, are every-day practices, and have long been established by custom as the best methods of culture, from the economy of putting in two years' crops, by the same labors, in one. Some agriculturists prefer laying down permanent pasture seeds without corn, and sowing them, not in the spring, but in the month of august. Their reasons for this, are first that the ground intended for permanent grass should receive a thorough cleansing from weeds, and which cannot be effectually done without a summer fallow; secondly, the heat of the sun so destructive to young grass, as well as the turnip fly at the same time are less to be feared in the autumn than in the earlier months of the year; and, therefore autumn-sown seeds seldom fail.

J. G.

If the Indian corn were cultivated in England, the writer of the above article, would no doubt, have added to his list of mixed crops. The practice, almost, universally, prevails in the West, of growing the pumpkin, bean or pea, and sometimes squashes and melons with the corn crop; and, in the more Northern States, turnips are, frequently, sown at the last working of the corn, with the most happy results.—We should be glad to see this last idea more generally adopted in this section of country.—The general principle (that every plant extracts from the soil, only, its own peculiar nutriment) is no doubt correct; and as the idea is, certainly, a pretty one, we should be pleased to see it carried out into general and profitable practice.

ED. TEN. FARMER.

Pastures.—Fields of clover, or other artificial grass, in which cattle are grazed, should be small; for it has been accurately ascertained that a much less number of acres will answer where they are so, than when they are always kept in one large field. The withdrawal of cattle from one field to another gives the grass a chance of growing, and that which has been trampled down, is thus enabled to assume its upright position. So far, however, as the saving and economy of green provender are concerned, soiling is incomparably the best plan of feeding. Two animals thus served can be fed from the product of one acre, whereas it requires one acre for each where they are permitted to graze on the field.

Farmer and Gardner.

Management of young cattle.—If you desire to have fine sized animals you must feed your calves well through the first winter: stretch their skins the first season, and growing will become a habit with them.

Acumulation of Manures.—The scrapings of the road, the lanes, leaves collected from the woods, weeds from fence corners and any where else, marsh mud, fresh or salt, and indeed, all vegetable or animal offal, if spread on the surface of your cow-yard, becomes in a few months as good manure as stable or cow-dung, for in addition to their own specific virtues, they sponge up and retain great portions of rich liquids which would otherwise be lost. All cow-yards should be basin-like in form so as to prevent the escape of such liquids.—*Gardner.*

From the Mother's Magazine.

INFLUENCE, AN IMPORTANT TALENT.

I will advert to a few of the modes of influence, which are most prominent and deleterious.

The press claims our first notice. This exerts a wider and more potent influence upon the minds of mankind than perhaps all other influences. I do not deny that it has been the means of good, which no finite mind can estimate. But who can sum up the evil which it has also effected? By means of it the poison of infidelity has been made to circulate through every civilized land. Insurrections and revolutions, wars, murders, and conflagrations—every crime staining the history of man—have been encouraged and perpetrated under the influence of the press. A single individual, having command of a press, may send arrows, firebrands, and death through a nation, and over a continent. A single author may corrupt a whole generation—a single statesman sap the foundations of a government—a single pictorial manufactory debauch the youthful population of a whole city—a single play-writer so debase and pollute the public taste, that years will be required to "wash the dismal stain away"—a single novelist so successfully conceal principles of infidelity and licentiousness, by means of a fascinating style, or a series of bewitching adventures, as to undermine and destroy many an unguarded youth.

Contemplate also the influence of a government upon a people.

The government has power. The prince, the president, the governor, are looked up to as examples. They have patronage; they have offices to bestow; they have money to disburse; they have honors to confer.

In this view, is it of no consequence who is king, or who is president? no importance who are their advisers? or who hold offices of trust and authority in the land? Suppose the president of these states and his cabinet—the members of our congress—our ambassadors—our judges—our officers of revenue—our governors—our generals—our captains of the navy, were all on the side of religious principle; their influence woul be felt from Maine to the Rocky Mountains; and that influence would be seen in the better observance of the sabbath—in the respect paid to the worship of God—the authority of the Bible—the administration of the laws—the prevention of crime—the abolition of intemperance—the general prevalence of order and morality.

Look at the influence of individuals.—A single distiller or retailer of ardent spirits may pollute the whole surrounding moral atmosphere He may poison the cup of domestic joy in a hundred families, and lay the foundation for the moral debasement and ruin of many successive generations.

A single unprincipled man in a village—an infidel—a gambler—a debauchee, may hinder the progress of moral and religious reform during his whole life, and leave his successors to reap, in successive years, a harvest of wo from the noxious seeds which he sowed.

One profane swearer in a school—in a manufactory— in a village, may contaminate the whole circle, and render oaths and curses as common as stones in the street.

A single young man of vicious habits may engraft those habits upon scores of companions; and they, infected by his malign influence, may poison hundreds of others in their dispersions through the world.

A parent may so bring up his children, that they will not only slight religion, but despise it. He may frown upon inquiry—pour contempt upon the influences of the Spirit—keep his children from the Sabbath School;—and by these means shut them out from the kingdom of God. But for his unhallowed influence, they might enlist as missionaries of the cross, and be instrumental in carrying the gospel to the kraal of the Hottentot, or to the sin-enslaved inhabitant of some fardistant island of the sea.

From the preceding considerations, is it not apparent that influence is a talent of wide extent? Indeed, no moral being in the universe is or can be a drone.

How important, then, that this talent be properly used! God holds every one responsible for the right improvement of it. He has denounced a "wo" against all who causes others to "offend," or fall into sin. Nor can that wo be trivial It is a wo utterred in time, but will meet its accomplishment in eternity. It speaks. therefore, the language of caution, and comes with an emphasis most solemn and terrific to every bosom.

Ignorance will form no excuse; where the means of knowledge were attainable; nor will inconsideration exculpate any man for the evil influence which he may have exerted. We are bound to ponder the paths of our going—the tendencies of our conduct and conversation. We should walk through this world as if in some garden, where at every step we may tread upon some opening flower, which, if not trampled upon, will soon shed its beauties and fragrance abroad; or, as if passing among lamps just lighted, and which a breath may extinguish but which, if suffered to burn, will presently flame forth, and cast their light all around.

ADDITIONAL AGENT.

B. JERNIGAN Esq.—*near Athens Ten.*